

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant responds herein to the Office Action dated November 27, 2007.

The mentioned Office Action repeats the prior Office Action, for the reasons that are set forth in the "Response to Arguments", at page 2 of the Office Action. In that section, the Examiner states that he "would appreciate if the applicant included language pointing to the fact that the lower purge element of the applicant actually supplies a gas".

It is believed and respectfully submitted that, as amended, claim 1 includes such language. In other respects, applicant realleges by incorporation by reference, the argument and remarks previously filed on September 12, 2007. Since the Examiner indicates that the issues have been fully explored and the instant Amendment should result in allowance, no explicit repetition of the prior argument is deemed necessary.

Regardless, should the Examiner be of the opinion that further adjustment of the claim language might be necessary, he is invited and urged to contact the applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number indicated below.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of record are directed to patentable subject matter and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims as amended and pass this case to issue.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY
THROUGH THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
EFS FILING SYSTEM
ON FEBRUARY 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



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